

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-3 (Presently Withdrawn)

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A method of forming an antifriction bearing for journaling a cylindrical portion of a shaft, said method comprising the steps of forming an outer race ring having an inner race surface for rolling engagement with a plurality of roller members that are adapted to engage the shaft cylindrical portion, and divided into two portions having stepped ends comprised of abutting radially inner portions and radial outer portions joined by generally cylindrical portions, and forming a clearance ~~formed~~ between the radially outer portions.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 4 further including the step of applying a surface finishing process ~~is applied~~ to the inner race surface when the race ring portions are held together with the inner stepped portions are held in abutment and the clearance exists between the radially outer portions without the rollers being received within the inner race surface.

Claim 6 (Newly added) The method as set forth in claim 5 further including the step of positioning rollers around the cylindrical portion of the shaft, and affixing the bearings in position there with by assembling the outer race ring with the clearance between their radial outer portions.